Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 37.-67 without prejudice.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and/or listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (original): A model of dental caries, comprising:

an artificial tooth, wherein the artificial tooth comprises a cavity, and wherein the cavity comprises:

an opening that extends from an exterior surface of the artificial tooth to at least a simulated dentinoenamel junction of the artificial tooth; and

wherein the opening extends along at least a portion of the simulated dentinoenamel junction; and

simulated decay material in the cavity.

2.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the opening contains simulated decay material.

3.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the opening comprises one or more grooves along the simulated dentinoenamel junction.

4.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the opening comprises one or more grooves, and wherein at least one of the grooves contains simulated decay material.

5.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the artificial tooth comprises resin.

6.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the artificial tooth comprises melamine resin.

7.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein a surface defined by the cavity is configured to bond to the simulated decay material.

8.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein a surface defined by the cavity is textured.

9.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein a surface defined by the cavity is textured with an etching solution.

10.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein a surface defined by the cavity is textured with an etching solution, and wherein the etching solution comprises an acid.

11.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material comprises a resin material.

12.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material comprises a porous substance.

13.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material comprises a porous substance, and wherein the porous substance comprises pumice.

14.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material comprises coloring.

15.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material comprises food coloring.

16. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is homogeneous.

17. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is curable.

18. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is light curable.

19. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is curable with visible light.

20. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is detectable by caries detecting stain.

21. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is radiolucent.

22. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is radio-opaque.

23. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein the simulated decay material is of uniform hardness.

24. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein an outer layer of simulated decay material is softer than an inner layer of simulated decay material.

25. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 1, wherein an inner layer of simulated decay material has a greater hardness than an outer layer of simulated decay material.

4

26.   (original): A model of dental caries, comprising:

an artificial tooth, wherein the artificial tooth comprises a cavity, and wherein the cavity comprises:

an opening that extends from an exterior surface of the artificial tooth to at least a simulated dentinoenamel junction of the artificial tooth; and

one or more grooves extending from the opening; and

simulated decay material in the cavity.

27.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein the opening contains simulated decay material.

28.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein at least one of the grooves extends along at least a portion of the simulated dentinoenamel junction.

29.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein at least one of the grooves extends along at least a portion of the simulated dentinoenamel junction, and wherein at least one of the grooves contains simulated decay material.

30.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein the artificial tooth comprises resin.

31.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein the simulated decay material is radiolucent.

32.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein the simulated decay material is radio-opaque.

33.   (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein the simulated decay material is of uniform hardness.

34. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein an outer layer of simulated decay material is softer than an inner layer of simulated decay material.

35. (original): The model of dental caries of claim 26, wherein an inner layer of simulated decay material has a greater hardness than an outer layer of simulated decay material.

36. (original): A method comprising:

forming a cavity in an artificial tooth, wherein the cavity comprises:

an opening extending from an exterior surface of the artificial tooth to at least a simulated dentinoenamel junction of the artificial tooth; and

wherein the opening extends along at least a portion of the simulated dentinoenamel junction; and

applying simulated decay material to the cavity.

37-67. (cancelled)